Points to Ponder!

Mahdin Mahboob

"NO! Too much traffic jam on that side!"

"No! I've run out of gas - need to refill!"

"No! I'll ONLY go to Mirpur, and no where else!"

"Yes I'll go there but will charge you *three* times the usual fare!"

"Yes I'll go there according to the meter! (But my fare-meter is tampered and without any good reason you'll be charged *three* times the usual fare!)"

"Yes I'll go there with the usual fare! (But my friends a.k.a. hijackers / *molom party* people will be waiting in the middle of the road and you have to sacrifice whatever you have with you, perhaps even your life!)"

Being more used to such answers from the cab drivers of Dhaka, I was completely taken aback when I heard a completely different story from my sister who's just gone to England a couple of days back to pursue her Masters Degree. The admission staff at the University of Portsmouth had informed my sister, prior to her reaching the place, that the usual fare from the railway station to the university is £5.

